

**Minutes
Of the
Delaware Bicycle Council
April 4, 2001
DeIDOT Administration Building**

Members Present

Don Carbaugh, Chair and New Castle County Representative
Bill Boyd, At-large Representative
Carl Anderson, At-large Representative
Janet Arns, Department of Education
Fred Breukelman, Dept. of Public Health
Lee Ann Walling, Sussex County Representative

DeIDOT Support Staff Present

Fritz Schranck, Deputy Attorney General
David Petrosky, Project Planner
Wendy Bernard, Secretary

Members Absent

Rocky Bushweller, Council on Transportation
Paul Stevenson, NCC At-large Representative
Laura Madara, DNREC
Lisa Moore, Office of Highway Safety
Jay Kelley, DeIDOT Representative
George Heberling, DE State Police

Special Guests

Tim Plemmons, Council of Greenways and Trails
Amy Wilburn
Tom Pleasanton

The meeting was called to order at 5:10 p.m.

I. Welcome and Introductions

Introductions

Don C. introduced Lee Ann Walling who is the Council's new Sussex County Representative replacing Jim Ippilito. Lee Ann is Governor Minner's Senior Advisor, a cycling enthusiast, and is eager to be an advocate for the DBC.

Tom Pleasanton also attended the meeting as a guest and possible candidate for the vacant Kent County seat. He has had a long career in cycling, both USCF and racing. He belongs to the Salisbury cycling club and currently works at Polytech.

Amy Wilburn was also present; she is awaiting official appointment to the DBC from the Governor. She will fill the At-large vacant seat.

The rest of the Council present went around the table to introduce themselves to the new people.

Council Membership

Don C. discussed the current status of membership of the DBC. There are 15 seats on the DBC, 8 are Agency representatives and 7 are citizens. Of the citizen representatives, there

is one Kent County vacancy and 1 At-Large vacancy. Tom Pleasanton is a possible candidate for the Kent County seat and Amy Wilburn is a possible candidate for the At-Large seat. Don C. also knows of someone else interested in joining the Council, Mrs. Levy.

Don C. was unsure of Tim Plemmons official role on the DBC. Fritz S. said Tim could not officially be the Greenways and Trails representative because he was not a member of that Council. When that Council's representative is appointed, we expect that Tim will be designated as permanent substitute.

Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator

Don C. informed the Council a candidate for the DelDOT position had been found and an offer was pending authorization from State Personnel. He then asked Fritz about the delay in getting the candidate hired. Fritz let him know that when a request for advanced salary is made, it has to be put through to State Personnel, not just DelDOT, for approval and that was what was probably taking longer than expected.

Approval of Minutes

Wendy B. handed out the meeting minutes from the March 13th meeting. Comments on them are due to her by April 18th.

II. Presentation "Livable Delaware"

Lee Ann W. gave the Council a brief presentation on Governor Minner's "Livable Delaware" strategy. She said the Governor was looking for input from everyone. The strategy, which was signed on March 22nd as Executive Order No. 14, is built on the "state spending strategies developed under the 1999 *Shaping Delaware's Future* report". The key points are:

- Addressing sprawl, congestion and other growth issues. Lee Ann stated that almost 72% of Delaware citizens live in unincorporated areas which puts a large burden on the state and, therefore taxpayers, to provide adequate infrastructure, transportation, schools, etc.
- Senate Bill 105 which would create a Governor's Advisory Council on Planning Coordination which will include representation from several different land-use stakeholders.
- Four pieces of legislation for 2001 will be introduced: Graduated Impact fees, Comprehensive plan implementation and annexation standards, strengthening the Land Use Planning Act (LUPA), and dealing with the state's acquisition of open space.

For more information on these topics, please see enclosed handout.

Lee Ann W. also spoke of some other agency policy's Governor Minner is interested in strengthening in order to support the Livable Delaware goals including:

- "Streamlining the Brownfields program and providing improved incentives for redevelopment--including matching grants of up to \$50,000 for cleanup."
- "Target housing funding-providing incentives for housing purchases within designated growth zones."

Governor Minner would also like to form a coalition of groups who would give input, called the "Friends of the First State". She would like the DBC to become involved in this.

Tim P. mentioned he had seen the Governor's press conference for Livable Delaware and was very impressed.

Fritz S. suggested the DE Coalition to Promote Physical Activity would also be a good group to include on the Friends of the First State; the contact person would be Arron Abraham of the U of DE.

Tim P. asked how the DBC would get its input from the Council meetings to the Governor and Lee Ann said she would be the liaison. She also offered to help speed up the approval process for pending membership applications to the DBC when Don C. commented he was trying to get the DBC back to full strength.

There was discussion regarding the state review process through LUPA not being effective because any recommendations made by the State do not have to be implemented. Fritz clarified the specifics, in that the only law is if a lower level government goes against the "State Planning Act", Comprehensive Land Use plans, or the Statewide Long-Range Plan, DelDOT will not support the project.

Don C. gave Lee Ann a copy of the DBC 1998 Annual Report for the Governor's information.

III. Old Business

Newsletter

Dave P. sent around a draft of the newsletter for Council approval. It will take a week to print and Dave will be submitting the draft to the printer tomorrow (4/5/01). The newsletter should go out in the mail April 23rd or 25th.

Don C. would like to get back to sending out a newsletter three times a year, one in the spring (the one currently being worked on), one for summer, and one in mid-winter. With that in mind, he would also like to have more Council members write articles and for members to continue to think of article ideas.

Don C. also would like to have all members write a short biography on themselves, which would possibly go on the website and possibly in the next newsletter along with a picture. It is not mandatory, but with the new members he felt it would be nice.

Mario Nappa will update the website and include the newsletter in time for Bike Month.

NCC Bike Map

Dave P. informed the Council there was a kick-off meeting for the bike map a month ago, a working group will be put together then the project will be brought to the public for input.

Don C. said Steve Spindler would be breaking up the Kent/Sussex Bike map so it can be more easily downloaded from the DBC website.

Network

Carl A. spoke of the current Statewide Long-Range Transportation Plan as a good project for the DBC network. Since it is such a large project, it is too much for the Council members to get to all of the workshops/public meetings, so a network of interested citizen bicyclists will be helpful. The current newsletter will include a questionnaire for volunteers. If the DBC could get 50-100 people who are really interested in helping, that would be great.

Bill B. mentioned that a list serve called "Announce Delaware" was still active and might be a good way to get people. Fred B. also said the DBC could set up a list serve free of charge through Yahoo. Tim P. questioned who the newsletter was sent to and if the civic associations were included. Carl A. suggested we get extra copies printed to bring to meetings.

Don C. informed the Council that the CCOBH was close to forming a bicycle subcommittee.

Bike Month

Bill B. brought the Council up to date on what had been planned for Bike Month so far:

- May 9th would be the Legislative Ride. He was wondering if there could be T-shirts available for the ride
- There was a possible Bike Rodeo planned with the help of the Boy Scouts, but he hadn't been able to find a troop who's free yet.

Don C. said the Legislative Ride would have a regrouping point 3 miles outside of Dover, which is a nice short ride for bicyclists who want to participate but might not have time or energy for the whole ride. It is possible that Governor Minner would sign the Bike Month and Bike to Work Week proclamations.

Dave P. also let everyone know there would be return transportation available from Legislative Hall back to people's starting points.

Budget

Dave P. reported the DBC budget was not yet finalized, but was currently being worked on.

Don C. asked if there would be any extra money for the Bike Transportation Safety Guide, which has been on the back burner for a while and for some DBC trinkets such as Tyvek emergency tags for helmets.

Dave P. said if there is money left after printing the T-shirts and newsletter, he would look into printing the Transportation Guide or some trinket items.

IV. Committee Reports

Safety and Education

There are no dates yet, but there is a planned Road 1 course in May for 3 nights from 5-8. So far 7-8 people have signed up as being interested in taking the course.

Don C. told everyone that the League of American Bicyclists was changing the Effective Cycling Instructors name to "League Certified Instructors" and the course had been broken down into smaller modules. Since the Council had already approved to spend \$300 for Mike Barker to attend an Instructor Certification seminar, would the Council agree to pay for Laura Madara to go?

Carl Anderson motioned to pay for Laura M. to attend, and Lee Ann Walling seconded, and it was approved.

Recreation and Trails

Don C. had started talks with Bellevue again about the "Park Pedalers" loaner bike program.

Don C. talked about the HCR-7 Rail/Trail Committee and how he would like to be the DBC representative to be involved. Bill B. asked if this concurrent resolution, which is a temporary task that would set up a temporary committee, would affect the DBC. Fritz said this was a temporary task force so it would not affect the Council.

Lee Ann Walling motioned to have Don C. represent the DBC, Carl Anderson seconded, so Don C. will represent the DBC.

Carl A. asked if there were a lot of abandoned rail lines which would be affected by this resolution. Fritz said abandoned deeds do not go back to the original owners, that the State

has first refusal. The resolution would oversee the process for possible light rails, a joint-use trail, or abandoned corridors DeIDOT was interested in.

Department of Health Initiatives

Fred B. said the University of DE is to develop a marketing campaign for physical activity and he wanted input on what we thought would convince people to be active. One theme was showing fun types of activity, such as bicycling. If any Council members have ideas on how to get people who don't bike to try it, please e-mail them to Fred.

Janet A. mentioned she knew of focus groups of the Physical Activity Commission, who might help out with Fred's project. The contact person was Steve Goodwin.

News Items

Don C. informed the Council that he had extra CD's sent out by FHWA regarding Bike Safety if anyone was interested in one.

Tim P. updated the Council that the New Linden Hill Road project was adding a separated path from Skyline Drive to Polly Drummond Road if it doesn't delay the project. Dave P. said that they were also trying a stamped pavement treatment, which would be similar to rumble strips, but safe for bicyclists.

Dave P. also let the Council know there would be a public meeting on the Dewey Beach project if anyone was interested in going on May 12th from 12-4.

The meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

**The Next DBC Meeting will be on June 6th from 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.
At the DeIDOT Admin. Building in the
New Castle (formerly known as the North) Conference Room**